

REMARKS

The indication of the allowability of claims 6, 8, 9, 11-13 and 15-17 is noted. Rejected claim 10 has been rewritten to include the subject matter of allowable Claim 11. Thus, claims 10, 12 and 13 should now stand allowed without further comment.

The rejection of claims 1-9 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, is traversed and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicants have eliminated the antecedent issue in claim 1 which, in any event, did not rise to the level of creating a problem of clarity, particularity and distinctness. On its face, the error in the claim was manifestly patent.

The issue with regard to claim 5 is not understood. The Office Action refers to a "small diametric guiding portion" but no such expression is used in claim 5.

The rejections of claims 1-4, 7, 10 and 14 as being anticipated by Wahrenberger under 35 USC §102(b), and of claims 1-3 and 5 as being anticipated by Miser under 35 USC §102(b) are traversed, and reconsideration of each rejection is respectfully requested in light of the amendment to claim 1 and the following comments.

Neither Wahrenberger nor Miser teaches or even suggests the claimed crosshead and divided connecting rod arrangement of amended claim 1 as described more fully at page 8, lines 2-4, of the specification.

The cited prior art shows, at most, a divided-type crosshead but certainly not a one-body type rectangularly-shaped crosshead as claimed herein. Indeed, the Wahrenberger patent already cited by the applicants on their disclosure shows the crosshead 5 divided into three parts and connected by bolts (unnumbered) or the like at the ends. Such an arrangement does not result in a small and compact compressor in the manner of the present invention which allows installation of the connecting rod within the crosshead. Nor does the prior art show a middle portion of the packing rod seals communicable (or conducted) to the gas suction flow passage.

Accordingly, early and favorable action on all the claims in the application is earnestly solicited.

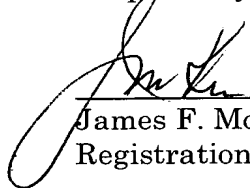
If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and

please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit
Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #100154.52518US).

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Respectfully submitted,



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